

REMARKSAmendments

In the descriptive part of the specification, the status of several references has been updated and various minor errors have been corrected.

DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.56

In fulfilling the duty of candor and good faith, the following documents are hereby disclosed to the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56. It is not admitted that the information in the listed documents is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). The Examiner is requested to consider the documents in the examination of this application.

Accompanying this statement is a Form PTO-1449 in duplicate on which the documents are listed. The Examiner is requested to return an initialed and signed copy of the form once the documents have been considered.

The following documents were cited by the European Patent Office in the International Search Report dated December 16, 2003 for International Application No. PCT/US 03/27753, which is a counterpart for this application. The documents were cited in categories "X" (a document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone), "Y" (document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art), and "A" (document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance). A copy of the Search Report is attached.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Category</u>
4,857,880	08/1989	Au et al.	338	22 R	X
4,924,074	05/1990	Fang et al.	219	548	X
5,089,688	02/1992	Fang et al.	219	505	X
5,166,658	11/1992	Fang et al.	338	23	Y
5,451,919	09/1995	Chu et al.	338	22 R	Y
5,852,397	12/1998	Chan et al.	338	22 R	Y
2002/109576	08/2002	Wang et al.	338	22 R	A

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Sub-class</u>	<u>Translation enclosed (?)</u>	<u>Category</u>
0 762 437 A2	03/1997	Europe	H01C	7/02	-	Y
1 595 198 A	08/1981	Great Britain	C08K	3/00	-	A

The following documents, not listed above, are referred to in the specification.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Subclass</u>
4,237,441	12/1980	Van Konynenburg et al.	338	22 R
4,304,987	12/1981	Van Konynenburg	219	553
4,514,620	04/1985	Cheng et al.	219	553
4,534,889	08/1985	Van Konynenburg et al.	252	511
4,545,926	10/1985	Fouts et al.	252	511
4,724,417	02/1988	Au et al.	338	22 R
4,774,024	09/1988	Deep et al.	252	511
4,845,838	7/1989	Jacobs et al.	29	671
4,935,156	06/1990	Van Konynenburg et al.	219	553
5,049,850	09/1991	Evans et al.	338	22 R
5,378,407	01/1995	Chandler et al.	252	513
5,451,919	09/1995	Chu et al.	338	22 R
5,582,770	12/1996	Chu et al.	252	511
5,747,147	05/1998	Wartenberg et al.	428	209
5,801,612	09/1998	Chandler et al.	338	22 R
6,211,771	04/2001	Zhang et al.	338	22 R
6,292,088	09/2001	Zhang et al.	338	22 R
6,358,438	03/2002	Isozaki et al.	252	511
6,362,721	03/2002	Chen et al.	338	22 R
6,640,420	11/2003	Hetherton et al.	29	612

Copies of Documents

In accordance with the Notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. documents are being submitted. Copies will be sent on request. Copies of the non-U.S. documents are enclosed.

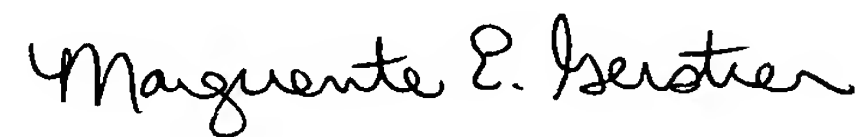
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Applicants believe that because this Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first action on the merits, no fee is due. If this is incorrect, please charge any necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0560.

Conclusion

The Examiner is asked to call the undersigned if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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